



State of West Virginia
Office of the Attorney General

Patrick Morrissey
Attorney General

(304) 558-2021
Fax (304) 558-0140

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The Honorable Joe Manchin
Senator
United States Senate
306 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Re: Support for Oklahoma Attorney General Scott Pruitt as EPA Administrator

Dear Senator Manchin:

I write to urge you to express your support for President-elect Donald Trump's nomination of Oklahoma Attorney General Scott Pruitt to serve as Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

As you know, the EPA is in dire need of reform. For the past eight years, the EPA has repeatedly and significantly overstepped the bounds of its statutory authority in ways that have been particularly harmful to West Virginia. Rather than focus on its mission of protecting the nation's environment, the agency has issued rules like the Clean Power Plan, which seeks to impose on the country the EPA's preferred sources for generating electricity. For our state, these actions are not only unlawful, but they also mean fewer jobs and have a devastating effect on our economy.

As Senator Capito has already said, Attorney General Pruitt is "exactly the type of person we need to lead the EPA during this critical time." He has a long record that demonstrates a thorough understanding of the proper role of and limits on the EPA. He and I have worked closely together for years on successful challenges to many of EPA's overreaching rules, including the Clean Power Plan and the Waters of the United States rule. Scott Pruitt's ascension to the EPA post is good for our state. At the same time, I know Scott Pruitt is as committed to the

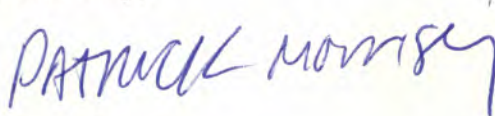
environment as he is to the rule of law. We can trust Scott Pruitt to rein in the EPA's excesses and refocus the agency on effectively carrying out its mission to ensure that our air and water are clean.

Recently, you expressed support for the nomination of Senator Jeff Sessions to serve as U.S. Attorney General. I applaud you for that decision. Now, on behalf of West Virginians who we represent, I ask you to do the same for my distinguished and highly qualified colleague, Scott Pruitt.

The leadership of the EPA is vitally important to the future of our state. Attorney General Pruitt will move that agency in the right direction and in a manner that benefits the citizens of our state and our country. I urge you to put your full support behind his nomination.

Thank you for your consideration.

Yours truly,



Patrick Morrissey
West Virginia Attorney General